I

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

STARRED QUESTIONS.

Agency

Renewal of sanads to pleaders in East Godavari Agency.

*741 Q.—Mr. K. V. R. SWAMI: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the Government Agent, East Godavari, granted sanads to four persons in 1927 permitting them to practise in certain Munsif's Court in the Agency area;

(b) whether the said sanads were directed to be granted in the usual course under the Agency rules without any time limit;

(c) the name of the Government Agent who granted such sanads;

(d) whether these sanads were not renewed in the next year, that is, 1928;

(e) if so, what the reasons were for not renewing these sanads; and

(f) whether the Government will direct the Government Agent to reconsider the matter?

A.—(a) Yes.

(b) No. The sanads which were granted were to be in force only up till 31st December 1927.

(c) Mr. G. W. Priestley.

(d) They were not renewed for 1928.

(e) Renewal was refused because there was already a sufficient number of qualified practitioners or old sanad-holders practising in the Agency Courts.

(f) No.

Mr. K. V. R. SWAMI:—"May I ask the hon. the Revenue Member whether the Agent can grant temporary sanads under rule 21?"

The hon. Sir NORMAN MARJORIBANKS:—"I must ask for notice. I thought the hon. Member referred me to an order which purports to give permanent sanads; I shall make further enquiries."

Irrigation

Action taken on the report of the Mettur Project deputation.

*742 Q.—Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether any decision has been arrived at by the Government on the report made by the Mettur Project deputation, and if so, to what effect;

(b) whether the Government have any objection to publish the report for public information and criticism even if no decision has been arrived at;

(c) when the copy of the report was sent to the Government of India; whether it was sent with a covering letter, and if so, to what effect;

(d) whether there has been any correspondence between this Government and the Government of India regarding this report and the revised estimates after they were forwarded by this Government, and if so, to what effect; and

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(e) whether the Chief Engineer at Mettur has made any report that the expenses are likely to exceed even the last revised estimate, and if so, to what extent?

A.—(a) & (b) The report and the orders thereon have been placed on the Editors' Table.

(c) A copy of the report was sent to the Government of India on 20th August 1928, and they were informed that this Government's remarks on the report would follow shortly.

(d) No, except as stated in reply in clause (c).

(e) No.

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—" With reference to the answer to clause (c), may I know whether the final Government Order of this Government has been sent to the Government of India? "

The hon. Sir NORMAN MARJORIBANKS :—" Yes, Sir."

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—" Are this Government expected to delay any of the works pending the final orders of the Government of India on the Deputation report? "

The hon. Sir NORMAN MARJORIBANKS :—" No, Sir."

Tenders for the supply of cement to the Mettur Project.

*743 Q.—Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR : Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether any tender has been accepted for the supply of cement for the Mettur Project; and if so, by whom and at what rate;

(b) the total cost to the Government according to the above tender of the quantity of cement said to be required by the Government and for which tenders were invited; and

(c) the number of other tenders, if any, that were received from others, and the respective cost to the Government according to them?

A.—(a) The Government have accepted the tender of the Shahabad Cement Company to deliver 153,000 tons of cement at Rs. 31-7-0 f.o.r. Shahabad.

(b) Including railway freight, the total cost to Government will be about Rs. 82,62,000.

(c) Two other tenders were received, but their terms cannot be disclosed as they were confidential. The rates quoted by the accepted tenderer are lower than those in either of these tenders.

Rao Bahadur C. S. RATNASABHAPATI MUDALIYAR :—" May I know at whose risk, the Government's or the Company's cement will be transported from Shahabad to Mettur? "

The hon. Sir NORMAN MARJORIBANKS :—" The answer gives information with regard to freight. As regards risks, I must ask for notice."

Mr. ABDUL HAMID KHAN :—" May I know whether the Shahabad Cement Company is a European or Indian concern? "

The hon. Sir NORMAN MARJORIBANKS :—" It is Indian."

Mr. ABDUL HAMID KHAN :—" Run by Indians? "